

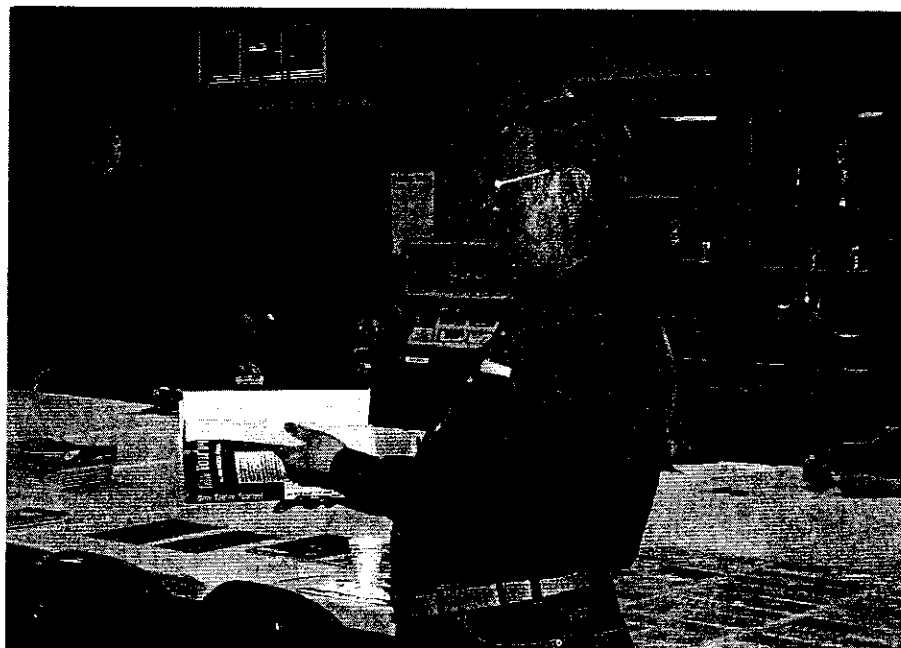
THE SPARK GAP

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

VOLUME 20 No. 3

MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MARCH 2003



picture by Jack Parker, W8ISH

DAVE WENDT, KA9OOH CONDUCTS NO – CODE TECH. CLASS

The no-code Tech Class started on Tuesday March 4th at Friedens UCC in Southport. The class will run for eight weeks and then testing will be given by the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club. Attendance at the class was good with 26 people of various backgrounds and ages all wanting to learn about amateur radio. Club members also help with the class and the code class held after the Tech license session. Thanks Dave and all that are helping with this project!

DON'T FORGET!

SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER CLASS

MONDAY MARCH 17, 2003

1900 L (7:00 PM)

JOHNSON COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

TRAINING PRESENTED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

STEVE BRAY HERE IN MARCH



Steve Bray, chief meteorologist for WISH-TV Channel 8 Indianapolis will be the guest speaker for the March 15th MARC meeting. Steve will talk to us about our ever changing weather patterns, past snow storms and the up coming tornado season. Steve is no stranger to MARC and has spoken to our group several times. We are always grateful for him taking his time to speak to our club and share his knowledge with us.

AL SOLTIS, KB9ZET INJURED IN ACCIDENT

Al Soltis was injured in a traffic accident on February 19th and was flown to Methodist Hospital. The accident happened on Nineveh Road after he lost control of his vehicle on the slick road. Al's 1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass slid sideways off the road as it came out of a sharp S curve. The vehicle landed on its top and Al who was wearing his seat belt was pinned in the car for about 30 minutes. Al suffered head injuries and is still recuperating in Methodist Hospital. We all wish Al a speedy recovery and hope to hear him on the air again soon.

..... Bob N9SIU

SENATE BILL 109

Many of you have been wondering about SB 109, and its journey to the Indiana House of Representatives. The bill was given first reading in the House on March 4, and assigned to the Indiana House Technology, Research and Development Committee.

The members of this Committee are: Democrats: Brian Hasler, Chairman - Evansville, h77@ai.org Ryan Dvorak, Vice Chairman - South Bend, h8@ai.org Terri Austin - Anderson, h36@ai.org Jeb Bardon - Indianapolis, h25@ai.org John Frenz - Vincennes, h64@ai.org David Orentlicher - Indianapolis, h86@ai.org Matt Pierce - Bloomington, h61@ai.org Peggy Welch - Bloomington, h60@ai.org Republicans: Michael Murphy, Ranking Minority Member - Indianapolis, h90@ai.org Timothy Brown - Crawfordsville, h41@ai.org Steven Heim - Culver, h17@ai.org Eric Koch - Bedford, h65@ai.org Michael Repley - Monroe, h79@ai.org Andrew Thomas - Brazil, h41@ai.org It is time to write, call, or Email these Representatives, and express your support for SB 109.

Don't forget to mention the reasons for your support. Just be certain to be brief and to the point. The phone number to call is 1-800-382-9467.

73, Jim Sellers K9ZBM

APRIL T.A.R.S. ARC CLUB MEETING

INARRL BULLETIN 011-2003 18:05:00 EST 03/08/2003 de KB9BVN SUBJECT: APRIL T.A.R.S. ARC Club Meeting. This is an Open Invitation for all your Club Members and fellow Hams, to visit Evansville Indiana and join in the APRIL T.A.R.S.ARC Club Meeting.

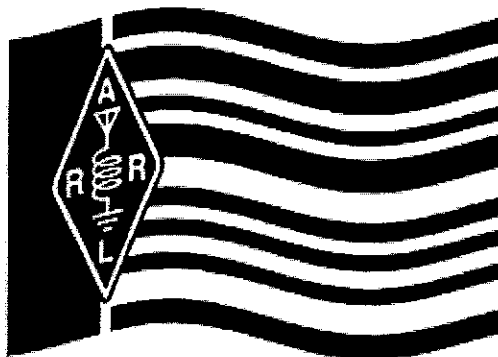
The April Club Meeting for the Tri State Amateur Radio Society, ARC, in Evansville, Indiana is set for Saturday APRIL 12th from 6:00 PM CST until 9:00 PM CST [we are 1 hour behind Indianapolis Time] at the Acropolis Restaurant, Ramada Inn, Highway 41S, Evansville, Indiana and the Guest Speaker will be Jim Sellers, K9ZBM, our ARRL Section Manager.

There are two ways to get there. 1) If you are coming North/South on HIGHWAY 41, take the DIAMOND AVENUE, HIGHWAY 66 Exit, and the Ramada Inn will be on the Frontage Road on the RIGHT. 2) If you are coming West/East on I-64 get off at the I-164 [Exit 30], go South to LYNCH ROAD Exit, go WEST to HIGHWAY 41, Turn LEFT and get off at the DIAMOND AVE, HIGHWAY 66 Exit and the Ramada Inn will be on the RIGHT.

If you want to stay overnight, we have arranged for anyone coming to the T.A.R.S. Meeting, to have a room for \$42.95.plus tax at the Ramada Inn. Reservations must be made by APRIL 5th and can be made by calling 1-812-425-1092, and mention the fact that you are coming for the T.A.R.S. MEETING at the Acropolis Restaurant.

If you have any questions, feel free to drop me an E-Mail and I will try and answer it for you. Yours sincerely, N9JCA Chris Matthews n9jca@arrl.net IRLP Node Owner 4368 T.A.R.S. ARC President 2003.

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Brian Murrey - KB9BVN Indiana Section Bulletin Manager (317)535-9887
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INDIANA WHIPS and WHEELS CLUB

(This letter is addressed to Joe Rogers, KF9LQ)

Joe,

My name is Dave Sadler and I am the President of Indiana Whips and Wheels Club and chairman of the committee that puts on the Indiana Combined Driving Event at Hoosier Horse Park every year. You may have spoken to Marilyn Johnson about this year's event but I want to formally ask for your Radio Club's help again this year.

As you know we are a non-profit organization that doesn't have a lot of money to work with and we rely heavily on the generosity of others to help us provide a safe and fun place to compete our horses. We will again be using at least 7 hazards on course and that would require a minimum of one person per hazard to act as spotters in case of trouble. If others come along to watch and want to participate, we can always use them as timers in those hazards. We generally have one judge and two timers per hazard.

Each member who comes will be given a T-Shirt and each hazard watcher will have the following: 1) Course Map 2) Set of hazard maps 3) List of the order of go for the marathon- showing name, competitor number and start time You will have an IWWI hand-held radio to keep in touch with the ambulance and show personnel. As you discovered last year, we use the FRS radios and you mentioned you might have your members bring theirs to facilitate matters. This would free up our radios for other areas and help your group stay more in touch with the show.

The marathon part of the event will take place on Sunday August 31st, 2003 and volunteers would need to arrive by 7:00AM and meet at the secretary booth. We appreciate your help and look forward to having your group with us again this year. This is the second year I will be at the helm and my wife (show secretary) and I are learning and trying to make things run as smoothly as possible.

If your group can be with us this year, we welcome your help. If we can address any concerns you may have, we will do our best. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

David Sadler Pres, IWWI
2347 E 1800 North Rd Fithian, IL 61844
217-548-2300 Fax 2400

(Our club has participated in this event for many years and look forward to be of service)

INDIANA HAMFESTS 2003

March 29th, Michigan City Hamfest "Spring Fling", <http://home.attbi.com/~w9ly>

April 12th, Columbus Hamfest, Bartholomew Co Fair Grounds 146.790 (-)

June 8th, Wabash Hamfest, Wabash, Talk-in 147.030(+)

July 12th, Indy Hamfest, Indianapolis, Camp Sertoma, <http://www.indyhamfest.com>

August 10th, Land-of Lakes Hamfest, Angola, IN, sharon.l.brown@gte.net

November 15th-16th, Indiana State Convention, Fort Wayne, IN kb9ih@arrl.net

IT IS TIME TO UPDATE YOUR ARES/RACES INFO

Jerry, W9JJS and Jay, AA9YP request that you up-date your ARES/RACES information concerning your station, modes of operation and your self.

It has been sometime since the information on ARES/RACES members has been up-dated. In order to be prepared for the time the groups are to be called on assistance. It would be good to know what each station is capable of for communications.

Please ask Jerry or Jay for a copy of the application to up-date your station info. New members are always welcome in ARES/RACES and Jerry or Jay can help you with that also.



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Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets at 0800 EST the third Saturday of each month at the Johnson County Law Enforcement Center in the Emergency Operations Center. All hams are encouraged to attend this meeting and VE testing is held January through November after the meeting has ended.

MARC operates the 146.835 MHz (151.4 PL) repeater and all hams are welcome to use it.

For more information please visit our club web page at: <http://www.midstatehams.org>

